ILLINOIS

SUMMARY

- Illinois continues to have high level transmission, especially outside of the Chicago CBSA. Illinois is in the red zone for cases, indicating 101 or more new cases per 100,000 population last week, with the 22nd highest rate in the country. Illinois is in the green zone for test positivity, indicating a rate at or below 4.9%, with the 28th highest rate in the country.
- Illinois has seen stability in new cases and stability in test positivity over the last week.
- The following three counties had the highest number of new cases over the last 3 weeks: 1. Cook County, 2. DuPage County, and 3. Will County. These counties represent 43.1% of new cases in Illinois.
- Moderate to high viral transmission is widely distributed in Illinois. Although the largest number of cases are reported by counties in the Chicago CBSA, most counties outside the Chicago CBSA have incidence of greater than 100 new cases per 100,000 population last week. Almost all of the 23 counties identified as having elevated risk (orange or red) are outside of the Chicago CBSA. 66% of all counties in Illinois have moderate or high levels of community transmission (yellow, orange, or red zones), with 15% having high levels of community transmission (red zone).
- Institutions of higher education (IHE): At Illinois State University (McLean County) and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, cases continue to decline, though this should be considered in the context of decreased testing at ISU. Bradley University (Peoria) reported declines after four weeks increases since reopening.
- During the week of Sep 14 - Sep 20, 9% of nursing homes had at least one new resident COVID-19 case, 19% had at least one new staff COVID-19 case, and 2% had at least one new resident COVID-19 death.
- Illinois had 107 new cases per 100,000 population in the last week, compared to a national average of 93 per 100,000.
- Current staff deployed from the federal government as assets to support the state response are: 65 to support operations activities from FEMA; 6 to support operations activities from ASPR; and 7 to support operations activities from USCG.
- Between Sep 19 - Sep 25, on average, 106 patients with confirmed COVID-19 and 499 patients with suspected COVID-19 were reported as newly admitted each day to hospitals in Illinois. An average of 91% of hospitals reported either new confirmed or new suspected COVID patients each day during this period; therefore, this may be an underestimate of the actual total number of COVID-related hospitalizations. Underreporting may lead to a lower allocation of critical supplies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Illinois has made progress through its plan for having tiered mitigation for the 11 regions in the state with the potential for increasing mitigation measures based on local resurgences. Regions are currently at the Tier 4 level, with some having additional measures. Given the very high degree of disease activity in several neighboring states, recommend temporarily increasing measures in regions where at least 50% of counties have more than 100 new cases per 100,000 population or test positivity greater than 8%.
- Given the continued high incidence in counties across mid and southern Illinois, continue to plan to increase surveillance for community spread by using the Abbott BinaxNOW or other antigen tests, especially to protect the elderly and other vulnerable populations (initiate implementation if deliveries have arrived). Establish weekly surveillance among critical populations to monitor degree of community spread among K-12 teachers; staff working at nursing homes, assisted living, and other congregate living settings; prison staff; and first responders as tests become available.
- Given the experience at Illinois IHEs, expand university testing utilizing all university, veterinary, and research platforms for surveillance and testing of students, beginning before Shield Illinois laboratory capacity becomes available through pooled sampling (given relatively low test positivity on many campuses), rapid antigen tests or other means. Use expanded capacity to increase testing in the communities surrounding universities.
- Expand public messaging to younger demographics, using social media and other messaging platforms, to communicate changes in local epidemic and appropriate actions that should be adopted.
- Test students in quarantine every other day for 14 days to define the duration required for quarantine (those exposed and not infected); this would be very feasible at UIUC, given high volume repeat testing.
- Track new daily hospitalizations in university towns with more than 5,000 students and react to any week over week increases with increased mitigation in those counties and surge community level testing.
- Specific, detailed guidance on community mitigation measures can be found on the [CDC website](#).

COVID-19

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	STATE, LAST WEEK	STATE, % CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	FEMA/HHS REGION, LAST WEEK	UNITED STATES, LAST WEEK
NEW COVID-19 CASES (RATE PER 100,000)	13,523 (107)	+8%	52,026 (99)	305,449 (93)
VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY RATE	4.5%	-0.1%*	5.0%	4.3%
TOTAL VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TESTS (TESTS PER 100,000)	328,827** (2,595)	+0%**	1,272,540** (2,422)	6,381,570** (1,944)
COVID-19 DEATHS (RATE PER 100,000)	152 (1.2)	+9%	505 (1.0)	5,143 (1.6)
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 CASE (≥1 NEW STAFF CASE)	9% (19%)	+0%* (+0%*)	7% (19%)	9% (20%)
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 DEATH	2%	-1%*	2%	4%

MOBILITY ▶
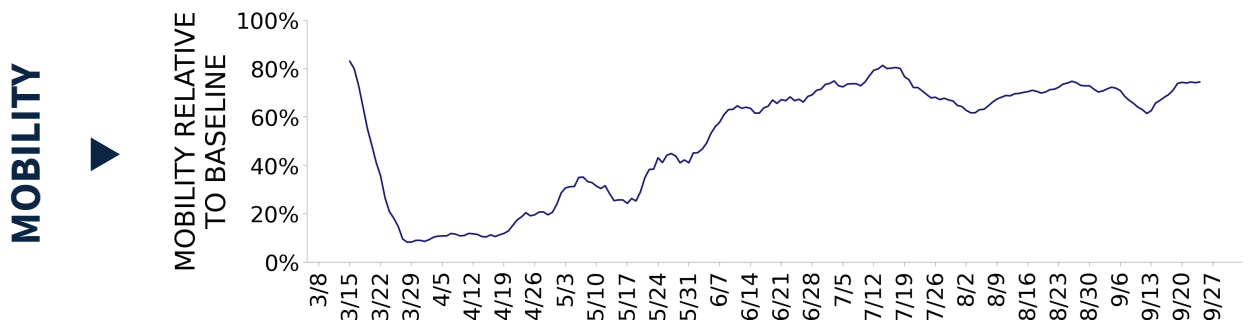
* Indicates absolute change in percentage points.
** Due to delayed reporting, this figure may underestimate total diagnostic tests and week-on-week changes in diagnostic tests.

DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS

Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

Cases and Deaths: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 9/25/2020; last week is 9/19 - 9/25, previous week is 9/12 - 9/18.

Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 9/23/2020. Last week is 9/17 - 9/23, previous week is 9/10 - 9/16.

Mobility: Descartes Labs. This data depicts the median distance moved across a collection of mobile devices to estimate the level of human mobility within a county. The 100% represents the baseline mobility level prior to the pandemic; lower percent mobility indicates less population movement. Data is anonymized and provided at the county level. Data through 9/24/2020.

SNFs: Skilled nursing facilities. National Healthcare Safety Network. Data are reported separately for cases among residents and staff. Last week is 9/14-9/20, previous week is 9/7-9/13.

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COVID-19 COUNTY AND METRO ALERTS*
Top 12 shown in table (full lists below)

	METRO AREA (CBSA) LAST WEEK		**COUNTY LAST WEEK**
LOCALITIES IN RED ZONE	**1**	Taylorville	**15** Clinton / Crawford / Christian / Fayette / Boone / Saline / Bond / Washington / Jo Daviess / Cass / Hancock / Pulaski
LOCALITIES IN ORANGE ZONE	**4**	Rockford / Charleston-Mattoon / Effingham / Cape Girardeau	**8** Winnebago / Coles / Effingham / Wayne / Grundy / Richland / Warren / Jasper
LOCALITIES IN YELLOW ZONE	**18**	St. Louis / Davenport-Moline-Rock Island / Carbondale-Marion / Ottawa / Decatur / Danville / Quincy / Centralia / Macomb / Rochelle / Galesburg / Sterling	**44** Will / Kane / Madison / St. Clair / Rock Island / McHenry / Tazewell / Macon / Williamson / DeKalb / Vermilion / LaSalle

All Yellow CBSAs: St. Louis, Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, Carbondale-Marion, Ottawa, Decatur, Danville, Quincy, Centralia, Macomb, Rochelle, Galesburg, Sterling, Pontiac, Freeport, Mount Vernon, Jacksonville, Dixon, Fort Madison-Keokuk
All Red Counties: Clinton, Crawford, Christian, Fayette, Boone, Saline, Bond, Washington, Jo Daviess, Cass, Hancock, Pulaski, Putnam, Brown, Calhoun
All Yellow Counties: Will, Kane, Madison, St. Clair, Rock Island, McHenry, Tazewell, Macon, Williamson, DeKalb, Vermilion, LaSalle, Adams, Kendall, Marion, McDonough, Bureau, Ogle, Knox, Monroe, Whiteside, Livingston, Macoupin, Franklin, Henry, Shelby, Stephenson, Jefferson, Montgomery, Lee, Morgan, Douglas, De Witt, Cumberland, Menard, Mason, Clay, Perry, Massac, Johnson, Wabash, Alexander, Scott, Mercer

* Localities with fewer than 10 cases last week have been excluded from these alerts.

Note: Lists of red, orange, and yellow localities are sorted by the number of new cases in the last 3 weeks, from highest to lowest. Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS
Cases and Deaths: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 9/25/2020; last week is 9/19 - 9/25, three weeks is 9/5 - 9/25.
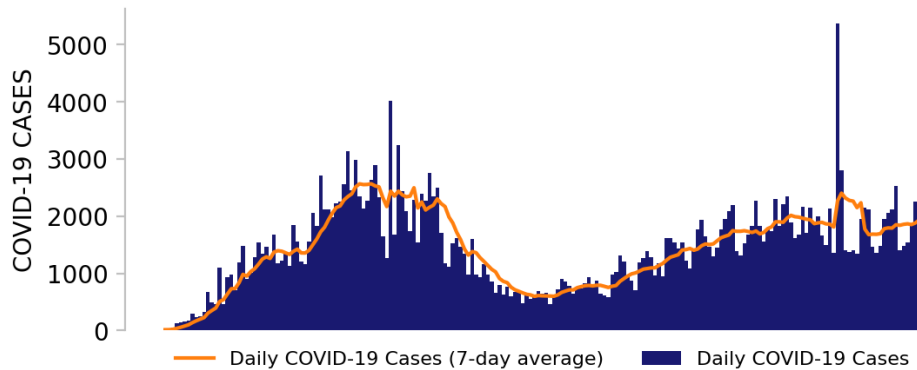**Testing:** CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 9/23/2020. Last week is 9/17 - 9/23.
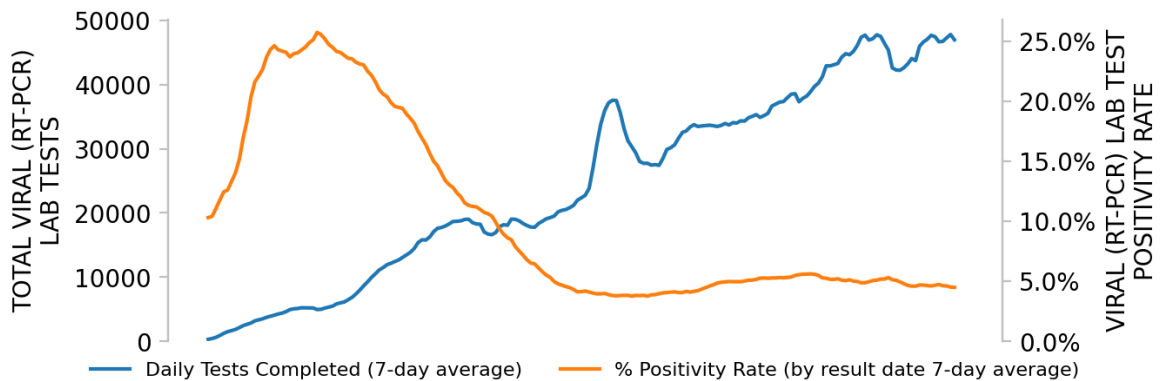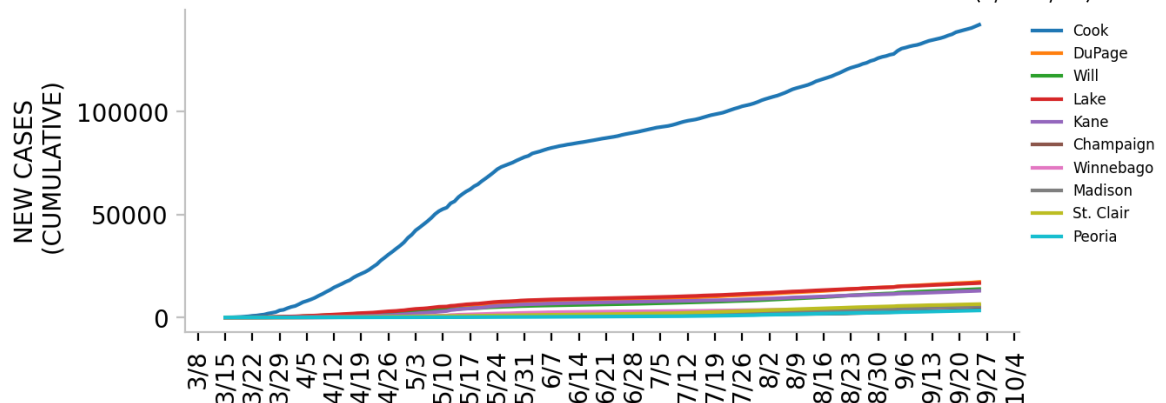
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NEW CASES

Daily COVID-19 Cases (7-day average) ▬ Daily COVID-19 Cases

TESTING

Daily Tests Completed (7-day average) ▬ % Positivity Rate (by result date 7-day average)

TOP COUNTIES

Top counties based on greatest number of new cases in last three weeks (9/5 - 9/25)

- Cook
- DuPage
- Will
- Lake
- Kane
- Champaign
- Winnebago
- Madison
- St. Clair
- Peoria

Top 12 counties based on number of new cases in the last 3 weeks

— Daily COVID-19 Cases (7-day average)　　■ Daily COVID-19 Cases

TOTAL DAILY CASES
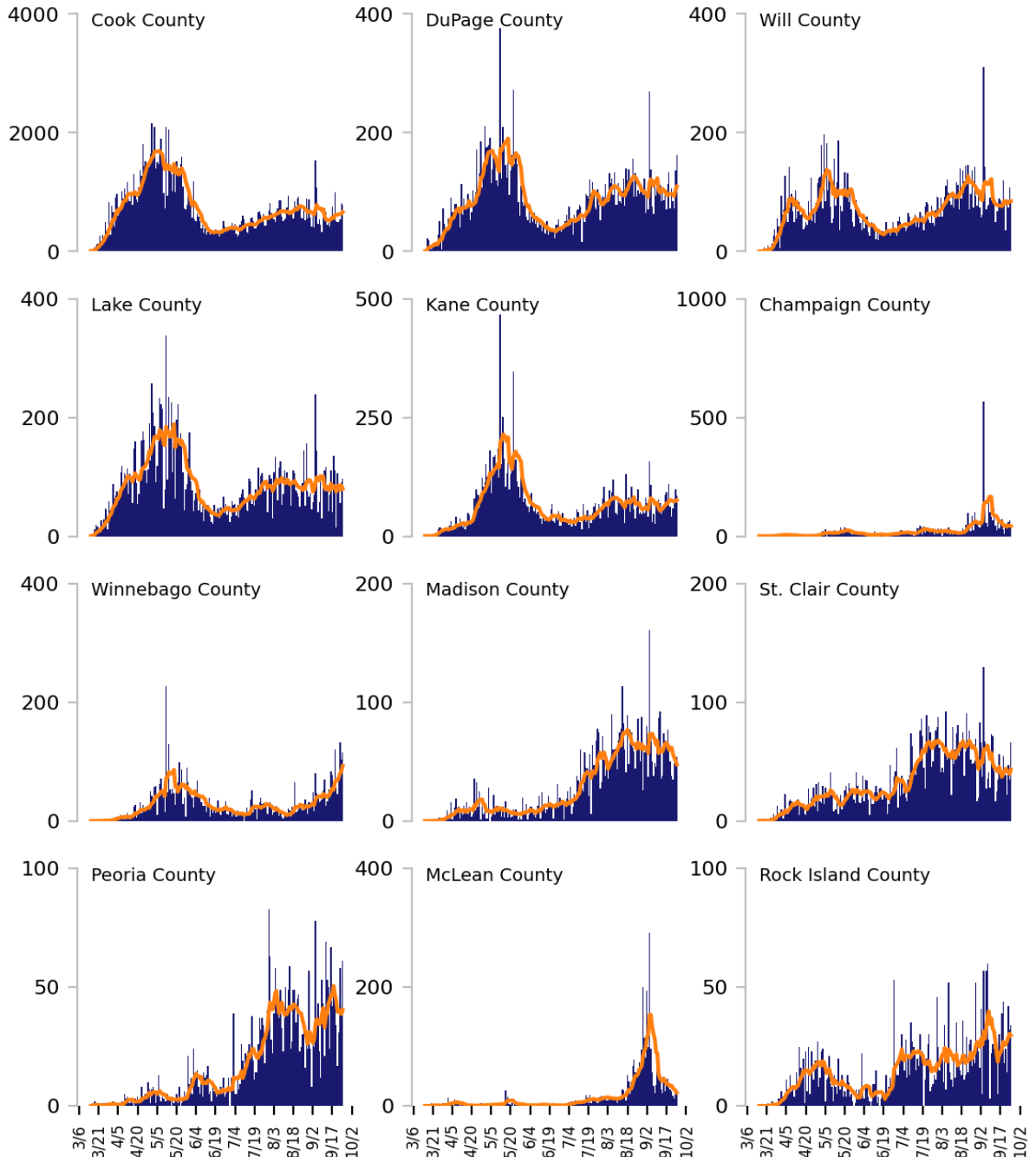
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CASE RATES AND VIRAL LAB TEST POSITIVITY DURING THE LAST WEEK

NEW CASES PER 100,000 DURING THE LAST WEEK

Date: 9/27/2020

Cases per 100K
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0 to 4
- 5 to 9
- 10 to 50
- 51 to 100
- 101 to 199
- 200 to 499
- 500 or More

VIRAL (RT-PCR) LABORATORY TEST POSITIVITY DURING THE LAST WEEK

Date: 9/27/2020

Test Positivity
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0.0% to 2.9%
- 3.0% to 4.9%
- 5.0% to 7.9%
- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 10.1% to 19.9%
- 20% or More

WEEKLY CHANGE IN NEW CASES PER 100,000

Date: 9/27/2020

Percent Change in Cases per 100K
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- -26% or Less
- -25% to -11%
- -10% to 0%
- 1% to 10%
- 11% to 99%
- 100% to 999%
- 1,000% or More
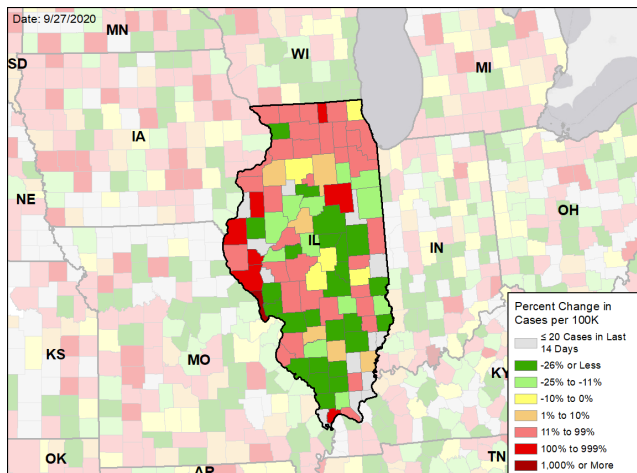
WEEKLY CHANGE IN VIRAL (RT-PCR) LABORATORY TEST POSITIVITY

Date: 9/27/2020

Absolute Change in Test Positivity
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- -2.1% or Less
- -2.0% to -0.6%
- -0.5% to 0.0%
- 0.1% to 0.5%
- 0.6% to 2.0%
- 2.1% or More

DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
Cases: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 9/25/2020. Last week is 9/19 - 9/25, previous week is 9/12 - 9/18.
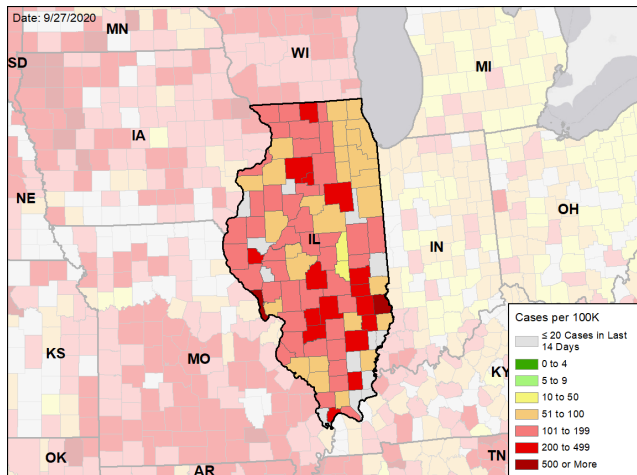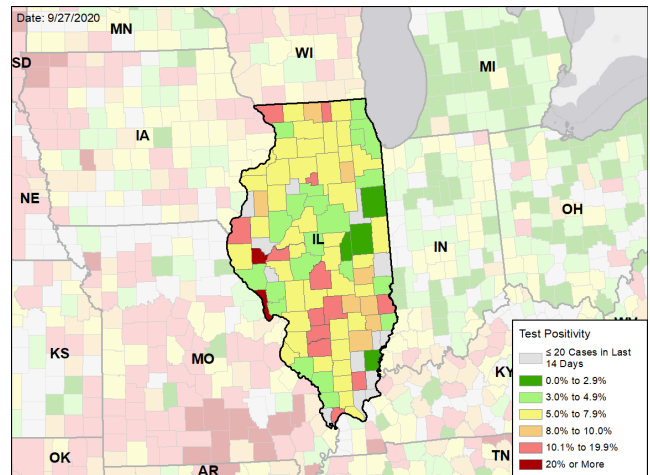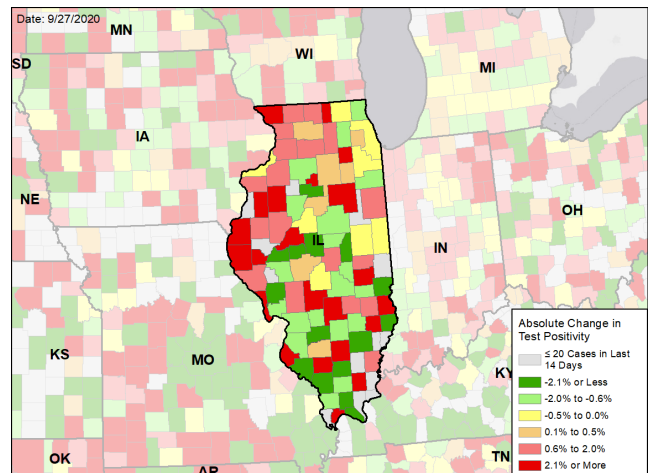**Testing:** CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 9/23/2020. Last week is 9/17 - 9/23, previous week is 9/10 - 9/16.

National Picture

NEW CASES PER 100,000 LAST WEEK

Date: 9/27/2020

**New Cases per 100K
in the Last Week**

Cases per 100K

≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
0 to 4
5 to 9
10 to 50
51 to 100
101 to 199
200 to 499
500 or More

NEW CASES PER 100,000 IN THE WEEK ONE MONTH BEFORE

Date: 9/27/2020

**New Cases per 100K
in the Week One Month Before**

Cases per 100K

≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
0 to 4
5 to 9
10 to 50
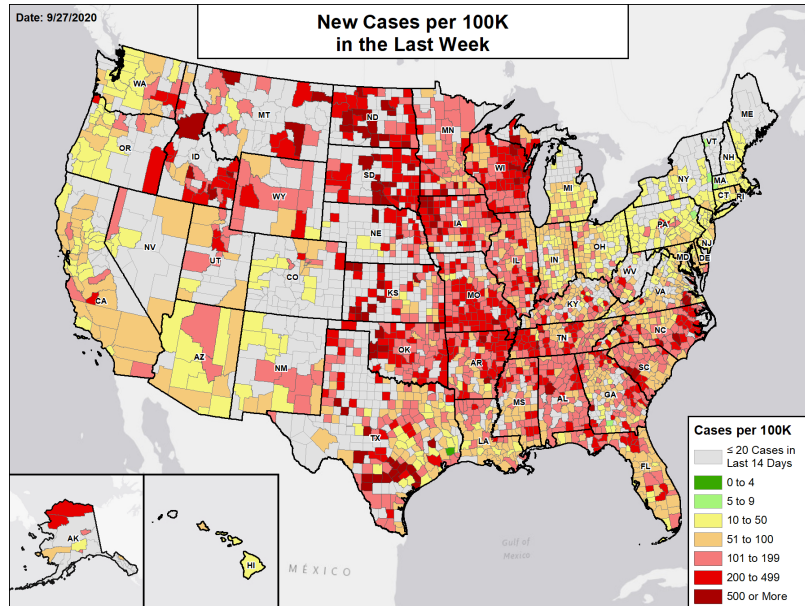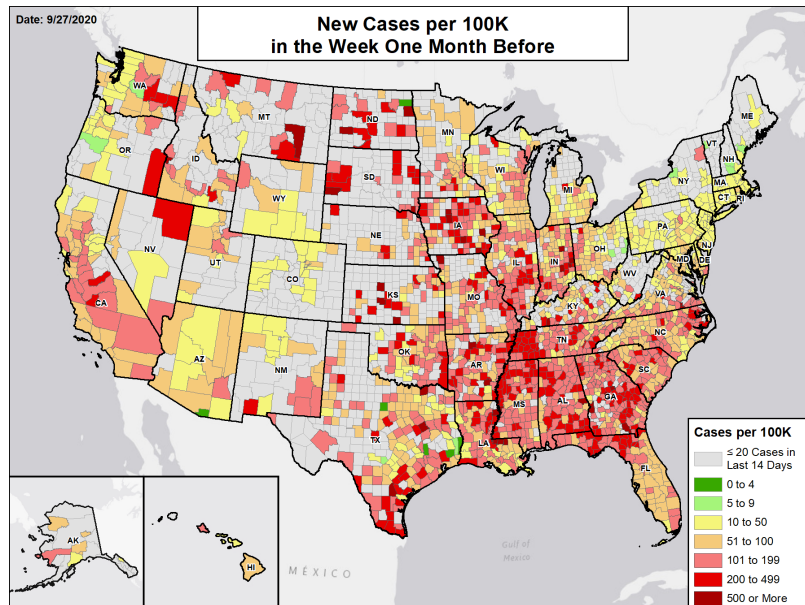51 to 100
101 to 199
200 to 499
500 or More

DATA SOURCES
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
Cases: County-level data from USAFacts through 9/25/2020. Last week is 9/19 - 9/25; the week one month before is 8/22 - 8/28.

National Picture

VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY LAST WEEK

Date: 9/27/2020

Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity in the Last Week

Test Positivity
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0.0% to 2.9%
- 3.0% to 4.9%
- 5.0% to 7.9%
- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 10.1% to 19.9%
- 20% or More

VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY IN THE WEEK ONE MONTH BEFORE

Date: 9/27/2020

Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity in the Week One Month Before

Test Positivity
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0.0% to 2.9%
- 3.0% to 4.9%
- 5.0% to 7.9%
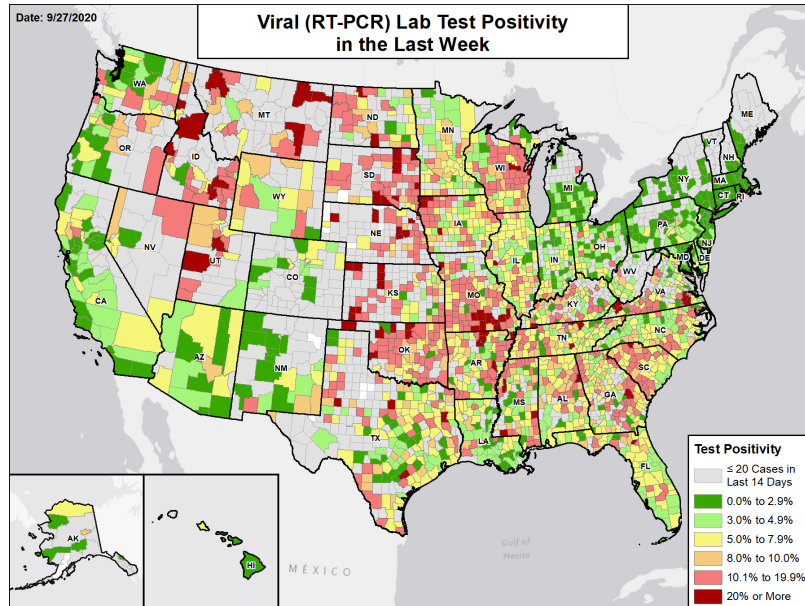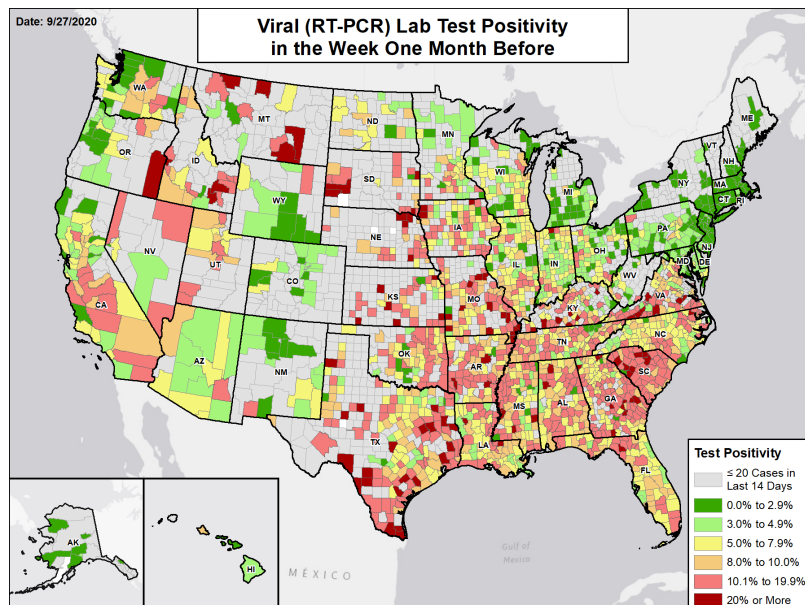- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 10.1% to 19.9%
- 20% or More

DATA SOURCES
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
Testing: Combination of CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data and HHS Protect laboratory data (provided directly to Federal Government from public health labs, hospital labs, and commercial labs) through 9/23/2020. Last week is 9/17 - 9/23; the week one month before is 8/20 - 8/26.

METHODS

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COLOR THRESHOLDS: Results for each indicator should be taken in context of the findings for related indicators (e.g., changes in case incidence and testing volume). Values are rounded before color classification.

Metric	Dark Green	Light Green	Yellow	Orange	Red
New cases per 100,000 population per week	≤4	5 – 9	10 – 50	51 – 100	≥101
Percent change in new cases per 100,000 population	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% – 10%	≥11%
Diagnostic test result positivity rate	≤2.9%	3.0% – 4.9%	5.0% – 7.9%	8.0% – 10.0%	≥10.1%
Change in test positivity	≤-2.1%	-2.0% – -0.6%	-0.5% – 0.0%	0.1% – 0.5%	≥0.6%
Total diagnostic tests resulted per 100,000 population per week	≥2001	1001 – 2000	750 – 1000	500 – 749	≤499
Percent change in tests per 100,000 population	≥26%	11% – 25%	1% – 10%	-10% – 0%	≤-11%
COVID-19 deaths per 100,000 population per week	≤0.1	0.2 – 0.4	0.5 – 1.0	1.1 – 2.0	≥2.1
Percent change in deaths per 100,000 population	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% – 10%	≥11%
Skilled Nursing Facilities with at least one resident COVID-19 case, death	0%		1% – 5%		≥6%
Change in SNFs with at least one resident COVID-19 case, death	≤-2%		-1% – 1%		≥2%

DATA NOTES

- Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes. It is critical that states provide as up-to-date data as possible.
- **Cases and deaths:** County-level data from USAFacts as of 17:12 EDT on 09/27/2020. State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data are reviewed on a daily basis against internal and verified external sources and, if needed, adjusted. Last week data are from 9/19 to 9/25; previous week data are from 9/12 to 9/18; the week one month before data are from 8/22 to 8/28.
- **Testing:** The data presented represent viral COVID-19 laboratory diagnostic and screening test (reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, RT-PCR) results—not individual people—and exclude antibody and antigen tests, unless stated otherwise. CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data are used to describe county-level viral COVID-19 laboratory test (RT-PCR) result totals when information is available on patients' county of residence or healthcare providers' practice location. HHS Protect laboratory data (provided directly to Federal Government from public health labs, hospital labs, and commercial labs) are used otherwise. Some states did not report on certain days, which may affect the total number of tests resulted and positivity rate values. Because the data are deidentified, total viral (RT-PCR) laboratory tests are the number of tests performed, not the number of individuals tested. Viral (RT-PCR) laboratory test positivity rate is the number of positive tests divided by the number of tests performed and resulted. Resulted tests are assigned to a timeframe based on this hierarchy of test-related dates: 1. test date; 2. result date; 3. specimen received date; 4. specimen collection date. Resulted tests are assigned to a county based on a hierarchy of test-related locations: 1. patient residency; 2. provider facility location; 3. ordering facility location; 4. performing organization location. States may calculate test positivity other using other methods. Last week data are from 9/17 to 9/23; previous week data are from 9/10 to 9/16; the week one month before data are from 8/20 to 8/26. HHS Protect data is recent as of 12:34 EDT on 09/27/2020. Testing data are inclusive of everything received and processed by the CELR system as of 19:00 EDT on 09/26/2020.
- **Mobility:** Descartes Labs. These data depict the median distance moved across a collection of mobile devices to estimate the level of human mobility within a locality. The 100% represents the baseline mobility level prior to the pandemic; lower percent mobility indicates less population movement. Data is anonymized and provided at the locality level. Data is recent as of 13:00 EDT on 09/27/2020 and is through 9/24/2020.
- **Hospitalizations:** Unified hospitalization dataset in HHS Protect. This figure may differ from state data due to differences in hospital lists and reporting between federal and state systems. These data exclude psychiatric, rehabilitation, and religious non-medical hospitals. In addition, hospitals explicitly identified by states/regions as those from which we should not expect reports were excluded from the percent reporting figure. The data presented represents raw data provided; we are working diligently with state liaisons to improve reporting consistency. Data is recent as of 17:28 EDT on 09/27/2020.
- **Skilled Nursing Facilities:** National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Data report resident and staff cases independently. Quality checks are performed on data submitted to the NHSN. Data that fail these quality checks or appear inconsistent with surveillance protocols may be excluded from analyses. Data presented in this report are more recent than data publicly posted by CMS. Last week is 9/14-9/20, previous week is 9/7-9/13.
- **County and Metro Area Color Categorizations**
    - **Red Zone:** Those core-based statistical areas (CBSAs) and counties that during the last week reported both new cases at or above 101 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result at or above 10.1%.
    - **Orange Zone:** Those CBSAs and counties that during the last week reported both new cases between 51–100 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result between 8.0–10.0%, or one of those two conditions and one condition qualifying as being in the "Red Zone."
    - **Yellow Zone:** Those CBSAs and counties that during the last week reported both new cases between 10–50 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result between 5.0–7.9%, or one of those two conditions and one condition qualifying as being in the "Orange Zone" or "Red Zone."